

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 6, 12, 18 and 24 have been amended as shown on pp. 2-8 of the Reply. Claims 11, 17 and 23 have been canceled.

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the teleconference of January 15, 2008.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

#### **I. Minor Informalities**

Claim 6, line 10, recites that phrase "automatically configures the itself according to the configuration information". To advance prosecution of the claim, examiner assumes this is a typo and the claim is examined with the phrase "automatically configures itself according to the configuration information". Proper correction is required. Claim 6 has been amended to correct any deficiencies related to this rejection, as such the rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

#### **II. Rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18-22 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Moyer *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0135596 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims.

The claimed subject matter relates to a networked computing environment for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected network. In particular, independent claim 1 recites a networked computing environment for providing network services to computing devices, the networked computing environment comprising: *a communication network operable to communicate with a plurality of computing devices; and configuration information associated with the communication network, the configuration information describing a configuration for computing devices connected to the communication network; wherein the communication network, upon the computing device dynamically establishing a network connection to the communication network, provides the configuration information to the computing device, such that the computing device may automatically*

*configure itself according to the configuration information; wherein the computing device is further configured based on the occurrence of a triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day, such that detection of the triggering event initiates configuration information specifically associated with the detected triggering event; and wherein the computing device, upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to the communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.* The cited reference does not expressly or inherently disclose the aforementioned novel aspects of applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in the subject claims.

Moyer *et al.* discloses a network configuration manager that performs end-to-end configuration management and configuration validation of the customer premise network to enable a requested service to operate within the network. (See pg. 1, paragraph [0008]).

In contrast, applicants' claimed subject matter discloses a networked computing environment for providing network services to computing devices. Configuration information, specific to the network is provided, such that the computing device may automatically configure itself according to the configuration information. Further, default configurations are stored on the computing device and automatically configured when there is no current network connection.

In addition to configuring the computing device according to a detected network, configuration information also includes additional conditional criteria. The additional criteria may control the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, or other conditions, such as whether a homework assignment, is or is not completed. (See pg. 9, line 16-pg. 11, line 30).

Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Applicants' claimed computing environment discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.*

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a computing environment, comprising: ... ***wherein the computing device is further configured based on the occurrence of a triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day, such that detection of the triggering event initiates configuration information specifically associated with the detected triggering event....***

Furthermore, independent claim 6 recites a computing system that automatically configures according to a detected network, the computing system comprising: *a processor; a memory; and a network interface for connecting to a communication network; wherein the computing system, upon dynamically establishing a connection to a communication network: obtains configuration information associated with the communication network; and automatically configures itself according to the configuration information; wherein the computing system is further configured based on the occurrence of a triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day, such that detection of the triggering event initiates configuration information specifically associated with the detected triggering event; wherein the computing system comprises multiple sets of configuration information that is used to automatically configure the system based on the specific communication network the system is connected to and the detection of triggering events; and wherein the computing system, upon detecting that the computing system is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing system configures itself according to default configuration information.*

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Applicants' claimed computing system discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* Applicants' claimed computing system also discloses storing default

configurations on the computing device and automatically configuring the computing system with the default configurations when there is no current network connection.

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not disclose a computing system, comprising: ...*wherein the computing system is further configured based on the occurrence of a triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day, such that detection of the triggering event initiates configuration information specifically associated with the detected triggering event; wherein the computing system comprises multiple sets of configuration information that is used to automatically configure the system based on the specific communication network the system is connected to and the detection of triggering events; and wherein the computing system, upon detecting that the computing system is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing system configures itself according to default configuration information.*

Furthermore, independent claim 12 recites a method for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected network, the method comprising: *detecting a change to the computing device's current network connection; obtaining configuration information corresponding to the computing device's current network connection; automatically configuring the computing device according to configuration information; upon detecting the occurrence of a triggering event, the computing device is automatically configured according to configuration information specifically associated with the triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day; utilizing multiple sets of configuration information to automatically configure the device based on the specific communication network the device is connected to and the detection of triggering events; and upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.*

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Applicants' claimed method discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific

days of the week, times of day, *etc.* Applicants' claimed method also discloses storing default configurations on the computing device and automatically configuring the computing system with the default configurations when there is no current network connection.

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not disclose a method, comprising: ... ***upon detecting the occurrence of a triggering event, the computing device is automatically configured according to configuration information specifically associated with the triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day; utilizing multiple sets of configuration information to automatically configure the device based on the specific communication network the device is connected to and the detection of triggering events; and upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.***

Furthermore, independent claim 18 recites a computer-readable medium, having computer-readable instructions, which when executed on a computer, carry out the method comprising: *detecting a change to the computer's current network connection; obtaining configuration information corresponding to the computer's current network connection; automatically configuring the computer according to configuration information; upon detecting the occurrence of a triggering event, the computer is automatically configured according to configuration information specifically associated with the triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day; and upon detecting that the computer is no longer connected to a communication network, the computer configures itself according to default configuration information.*

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Applicants' claimed method discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* Applicants' claimed method also discloses storing default configurations on the computing device and automatically configuring the computing system with the default configurations when there is no current network connection.

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not disclose a method, comprising: ... *upon detecting the occurrence of a triggering event, the computing device is automatically configured according to configuration information specifically associated with the triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day; and upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.*

In view of at least the above, it is readily apparent that the cited reference fails to expressly or inherently disclose applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 12 and 18 (and claims 2-5, 7-10, 13-16 and 19-22 which respectively depend there from). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these claims be deemed allowable.

### **III. Rejection of Claims 11, 17 and 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 11, 17 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.*, in view of Moran *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0163581 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Claims 11, 17 and 23 have been canceled, as such the rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

### **IV. Rejection of Claims 24 and 26-29 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 24 and 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.*, in view of Cohen *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0044215 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims.

As stated *supra*, the claimed subject matter relates to a networked computing system that automatically configures according to a detected network. In particular, independent claim 24 recites a method for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected triggering event, the method comprising: *automatically detecting an occurrence of a triggering event; selecting configuration information for the computing device previously associated with the detected triggering event; configuring the computing device according to selected configuration information; upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a*

***communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.*** The cited references do not expressly or inherently disclose the aforementioned novel aspects of applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in the subject claims.

Moyer *et al.* discloses a network configuration manager that performs end-to-end configuration management and configuration validation of the customer premise network to enable a requested service to operate within the network. (See pg. 1, paragraph [0008]).

In contrast, applicants' claimed subject matter discloses a method for automatically configuring a computing device. Configuration information, specific to the network is provided, such that the computing device may automatically configure itself according to the configuration information. Further, default configurations are stored on the computing device and automatically configured when there is no current network connection.

In addition to configuring the computing device according to a detected network, configuration information also includes additional conditional criteria. The additional criteria may control the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, or other conditions, such as whether a homework assignment, is or is not completed. (See pg. 9, line 16-pg. 11, line 30).

Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Applicants' claimed computing environment discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.*

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a method, comprising: ... ***upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.***

Cohen *et al.* does not cure the deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* Cohen *et al.* discloses an automation engine that is configured to automatically run network data collection, analysis, and

reporting tools. Each tool is designed or modified to enable the parameters required for operating the tool to be read from a settings file. The automation engine is configured to provide the appropriate settings file to each tool to perform a given set of tasks. Tasks can be performed on-demand, on predefined schedules, or upon detection of a triggering event. A triggering event is described as a user-induced event, a timed event, an anticipated event, an anomalous event, *etc.* (See pg.1, paragraph [0006]).

However, Cohen *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* The triggering event of Cohen *et al.* merely determines when a given set of tasks are performed. Furthermore, applicants' claimed method also discloses storing default configurations on the computing device and automatically configuring the computing system with the default configurations when there is no current network connection. Cohen *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device to a default setting when there is no current network connection.

Furthermore, dependent claims 26-29 further define applicants' claimed triggering event, such as the occurrence of a particular date, a particular day of the week, a particular time of day, and a change in the network connection. Cohen *et al.* merely discloses a triggering event as a user-induced event, a timed event, an anticipated event, an anomalous event, *etc.* Cohen *et al.* does not disclose configuring controls according to a specific day of the week, particular network connected to, *etc.*

Accordingly, Cohen *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a method, comprising: *automatically detecting an occurrence of a triggering event; selecting configuration information for the computing device previously associated with the detected triggering event; configuring the computing device according to selected configuration information; and **upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information.***

In view of at least the above, it is readily apparent that the cited references fail to expressly or inherently disclose applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in independent claim 24 (and claims 26-29 which depend there from). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested



that these claims be deemed allowable.

**V. Rejection of Claim 25 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.*, and further in view of Latvakoski *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No 2004/0153548 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.*, Cohen *et al.* and Latvakoski *et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims. In particular, Latvakoski *et al.* does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.* with respect to independent claim 24 (which claim 25 depends from). Thus, the subject invention as recited in claim 25 is not obvious over the combination of Moyer *et al.*, Cohen *et al.* and Latvakoski *et al.*

**CONCLUSION**

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP2194US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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